

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 193797
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ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 16 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. BURMA

GUB APPROV-D APPOINTMENT 8/15 OF MAURICE BEAN AS US AMB TO
BURMA (AP, NYDN).

2. INDOCHINA/THAILAND
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PAGE 02 STATE 193797

THAI MIL SPOKESMAN REPORTED 8/14 THAT 13 CAMBODIANS SUS-
PECTED OF BEING SPIES ARRESTED AT TA PHRAYA/BEING QUES-
TIONED IN ARANYAPRATHET. THAI FORCES REPORTEDLY EXCHANGED
GUNFIRE W/CAMBODIAN SOLDIERS IN BORDER VILLAGE (AP, WSTAR
8/15).

3. JAPAN

SPECIAL TRADE REP STRAUSS SCHEDULED ARRIVE TOKYO 9/8
FOR 5 DAYS TALKS RE POSSIBLE REDRESSING JAPAN'S TRADE

SURPLUS W/US. GOJ SOURCES SAID MONDAY STRAUSS ALSO WILL DISCUSS OTHER PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST (CULLISON, JOC TOKYO).

;PANESE TV MFRS REPORTED SHIFTING ATTN TO BLACK AND WHITE SETS IN ORDER MAKE UP LOSS CAUSED BY US-JAPAN COLOR TV IMPORT CURB AGREEMENT. INDUSTRY SEEKING SELL OVER 3 MIL B/W SETS IN US THIS YR (CULLISON).

JAPAN ANNOUNCES PROVISIONAL RECORD JULY TRADE SURPLUS OF 1.51 BIL DOLS--NEARLY DOUBLE REVISED FIGURES FOR JUNE/ OVER 4 TIMES LAST YR'S JULY SURPLUS (REUTER TOKYO).

SIX MAJOR JAPANESE STEEL FIRMS EXPECTED CONFIRM REDUCTION IN CRUDE STEEL OUTPUT FOR FY77 AT MTG THIS FALL. CUT REFLECTS SLUMPING DEMAND FOR CRUDE STEELS/REDUCTION EQUIPMENT SPENDING BY STEEL MFRS (WP).

IGNATIUS (WSJ) CITES CIA REPORT WHICH STATES "INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION" THAT IN NEXT FEW YRS, STEEL TRADE DIFFICULTIES WILL BE BETW US-JAPAN. REPORT PRAISES JAPANESE INDUSTRY AS "MOST MODERN AND EFFICIENT" IN WORLD/PREDICTS JAPAN UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 193797

WILL BE MAJOR SOURCE IMPORT PRESSURE.

NYT'S MALCOLM (TOKYO) DOES ITEM ON JAPAN'S MOURNING/REMEMBRANCE OF ANCESTORS/THOSE WHO DIED IN COUNTRY'S MOST RECENT BATTLES. HIROHITO LED NATION IN MOURNING/RECALLED "ACHE IN MY BREAST" AT JAPAN'S WWII DEATH TOLL 3.1 MILLION (WSTAR 8/15). WP/NYT CARRY FOTO EMPEROR BEFORE MONUMENT HONORING WAR DEAD.

SUN'S SEIDEN (TOKYO) DOES ITEM ON JAPANESE PREFERENCE FOR CLOTHING BEARING NAMES US UNIVERISITIES.

4. JAPAN/ASEAN

FUKUDA ARRIVED THAILAND 8/15 ON 5TH STOP TRIP DESIGNED STRENGTHEN ECON TIES BETW JAPAN/ASEAN. FUKUDA/WIFE/DAUGHTER/49 OFFICIALS FLEW BANGKOK FROM SINGAPORE FOR 2-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT (AP BANGKOK 8/15).

5. INDONESIA

IN PARLIAMENT SPEECH 8/16, SUHARTO ANNOUNCED GENRL AMNESTY FOR REMNANTS OF LEFT-WING FRETELIN GUERRILLA FORCES STILL ROAMING TIMOR MTS. SAID SECURITY SITUATION IN TIMOR HAD IMPROVED RAPIDLY SINCE ITS INCORPORATION INTO INDONESIA LAST YR (REUTER JAKARTA).

6. MALAYSIA

JOC'S LORENZ (KL) CITES CRITICAL BACKLOG CONTAINERS AT
PORT KLANG, WHICH LOCAL SHIPPERS SAY IS BEGINNING HAVE

SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS ON NATION'S ECONOMY. PROBLEMS
BEGAN LATE JUNE WHEN WORKERS BEGAN SLOWDOWN OVER SALARY
DEMANDS/BECAME WORSE BY BREAKDOWN OF ALL BUT 2-3 CARRIERS
USED FOR UNLOADING.

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PAGE 04 STATE 193797

7. CHINA

SEN KENNEDY IN 8/15 BOSTON SPEECH URGES US DROP DIP RELS
W/ROC IN FAVOR OF PEKING. SAYS UPCOMING VANCE MISSION
"MAJOR OPPORTUNITY" SET STAGE FOR NORMALIZATION. KENNEDY
FORMULA FOR SWITCH INCL EARLY W/DRAWAL US TROOPS IN ROC
AND OPENING OF NEGOTS FOR FULL RELS W/EXCHANGE OF EMBAS-
SIES NO LATER THAN 1978; SETTLEMENT OF US/PRC FINANCIAL
CLAIMS; EXPANSION TRADE (NYT, SUN, GLOBE). ALSO URGED
US REAFFIRM CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO USE OF FORCE AGAINST
ROC BY OUTSIDERS. ALTHO DOES NOT BELIEVE USEFUL FOR US
TO NOW DEMAND EXPLICIT PRC RENUNCIATION OF USE OF FORCE,
US SHOULD TAKE ACTION ENSURE ADEQUATE ASSURANCE ROC'S
SECURITY/WELL-BEING; TO INCL ENSURING ROC ACCESS TO SUP-
PLIES FOR SELF-DEFENSE, ENCOURAGING PRC SEEK PEACEFUL
MEANS FOR SETTLEMENT TAIWAN QUESTION. KENNEDY SAYS FAIL-
URE NORMALIZE MIGHT FORCE PRC SEEK LIMITED DETENTE W/SO-
VIETS (REUTERS, WP; GLOBE 8/15). WP'S MARDER ALSO ADDS
THAT KENNEDY STAFF DENIES SEN'S SPEECH TRIAL BALLOON FOR
VANCE MISSION, BUT APPROACH IS SIMILAR TO ADMIN'S.
GLOBE'S BEECHER SAYS SPEECH REPRESENTS 1 SCHOOL OF THOUGHT
W/IN ADMIN BUT NOT ADMIN ITSELF.

PRC RE-ENTERED STRUGGLE FOR INFLUENCE IN HORN OF AFR
W/OFFER OF MIL SUPPLIES TO SOMALIA. OFFER TO HAVE BEEN
1ST MADE IN MAY, REPEATED JULY AND INCL SPARE PARTS/RE-
PLACEMENT EQUIP FOR SOVIET-MADE TANKS/MIGS. SOMALIS SO
FAR HAVE NOT ACCEPTED PROPOSAL (REUTER WP, SUN).

CIA STUDY RELEASED 8/15 REPORTS PRC BUILDING OWN STRATEGIC
ROCKET/ICM FORCE BUT PRINCIPAL DEFENSE FORCE STILL SOVIET
DESIGNED WEAPONRY OF 1950'S VINTAGE. PRC LAGS 20 YEARS
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 193797

BEHIND SOVIETS; USSR SEVERAL YEARS BEHIND US. REPORT
ALSO INDICATES PRC UNDERGOING SERIOUS ECON PROBLEMS DUE
EARTHQUAKES/POL UPHEAVAL FOLLOWING MAO'S DEATH (AP WP, SUN).

PRC TRADE BALANCE IMPROVED 1976 OVER PREVIOUS YEARS TO
SURPLUS 1.1 BILLION-PLUS. 1975 FIGURE WAS 455-MIL-DOL

DEFICIT (REUTER HK).

ACCORDING TO US GEOPHYSICIST AT UNESCO-CONFERENCE JULY IN PARIS, PRC SCIENTISTS REPORTED SUCCESSFULLY PREDICTING 3 EARTHQUAKES 1976, ALTHO FAILED ANTICIPATE 7/28 QUAKE THAT DESTROYED TANGSHAN (REUTER).

PRC OFFICIALS PREVIEWED MAUSOLEUM FOR MAO IN SQUARE OF HEAVENLY PEACE; FORMAL OPENING EXPECTED 9/9, 1ST ANNIV HIS DEATH (REUTER PEKING).

ALBANIA PUBLISHED 12-YR-OLD SPEECH BY PRES HOXHA PRAISING PURITY OF PRC'S IDEOLOGY AT TIME; APPEARED CRITICISM OF CURRENT LEADERS (WP).

NCNA REPORTS DISCOVERY 2100-YR-OLD TOMB W/SOME 1000 BURIAL OBJECTS IN KWANGSI CHUAN REGION (REUTER, WP; UPI, NYT).

8. KOREA

SK FREES 2123 PRISONERS, INCL 17 POL DISSIDENTS, TO MARK 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION FROM JAPANESE RULE. SOME DISSIDENT GROUPS STRONGLY DEMAND ALL POL PRISONERS BE RELEASED (UPI, WSTAR 8/15). WIVES/MOTHERS OF ABOUT 30 JAILED SK DISSIDENTS DEMAND IMMEDIATE/UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE ALL DISSIDENTS; GO ON HUNGER STRIKE TO BACK DEMAND. GROUP LED BY MRS KIM DAE-JUNG (REUTER SEOUL).

JAWORSKI ARRIVES HILL TO TAKE OVER HOUSE ETHICS CMTE PROBE KOREAN INFLUENCE-BUYING SCANDAL (AP BALTO N-A 8/15, UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 193797

NYT, SUN, GLOBE, PHINQ, WP; VOLZ, NYDN). KEYES BEECH (CDN 8/10) QUOTES CIA'S TURNERS' FLAT DENIAL PUBLISHED STATEMENTS THAT AGENCY HAD TAPES IMPLICATING ROKG'S PARK IN BRIBERY US CONGRESSMEN. HALLORAN (NYT) QUOTES TONG-SUN PARK AIDES THAT HE WAS GIVEN GUIDANCE BY WASHINGTON LOBBYISTS ANNA CHENNAULT/THOMAS CORCORAN. NOTES DIPL OBSERVERS SAY ROC/SK HAD COMMON CAUSE IN PRESERVING STRONG US MIL PRESENCE IN EA/ASSURING CONTINUED ECON/MIL AID.

9. KOREA/CHINA

YUGOSLAVIA'S TITO LEFT 8/15 TO VISIT USSR/NK/PRC (SEEGER, LAT).

10. GENERAL

REP ASPIN (D-WIS) CRITICIZES TRIP BY USCG ADMS/RETIRED OFFICERS/WIVES TO PAC IS/TOKYO/HK/SEOUL/MANILA THAT BEGAN 8/6. CG SAYS FLIGHT IS OFFICIAL VISIT TO PRESENT AWARDS (UPI, WP).

11. AUSTRALIA

PM EXPECTED ANNOUNCE THURS THAT MINING/EXPORT HUGE URANIUM DEPOSITS IN NORTHERN TERR WILL RESUME AFTER 4-YR BAN. DECISION LIKELY BRING ANGRY PROTESTS FROM OPPOSITION LA-

BOUR PARTY WHICH OPPOSED DEVELOPING URANIUM OR SELLING IT AS NUKE FUEL. JAPAN, WHICH HAS NO URANIUM SUPPLIES, HOPES IMPORT 20 PCT ITS NEEDS FROM AUSTRALIA (REUTER, WSJ, CSM 8/16).

AUSTRALIAN CAR IMPORTS DOWN 7 PCT LAST MONTH COMPARED W/ UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 193797

JUNE, NOT W/STANDING SLIGHT INCREASE FROM DOMINANT SUPPLIES, JAPAN (JOC).

AUSTRALIA EXPECTS RECORD LEVELS BEEF PRODUCTION/EXPORTS IN 1977, ACCORDING USDA. BEEF/VEAL EXPORTS TO US NEAR AGREED-TO, VOLUNTARY-RESTRAINT LEVEL OFR 1977, ALTHO BELOW LAST YR'S LEVELS IN EARLY '77 (COMMODITY NEWS SERVICE, JOC).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

12. CHINA

GLOBE TODAY TERMS KENNEDY SPEECH CONVINCING ARGUMENT FOR NORMALIZATION/PLAN THAT "WOULD BE OF INESTIMABLE BENEFIT TO A RATIONAL WORLD ORDER."

KEYES BEECH (CDN 8/13-14) DESCRIBES UPCOMING VANCE VISIT TO PRC AS SALES MISSION. NOTES US TO DISCUSS SALES OF WHEAT/MIL EQUIPMENT, PURCHASE PRC OIL. NORMALIZATION A GOAL BUT NOT ONE THAT WILL BE RUSHED TOWARD.

CROCKER SNOW (GLOBE 8/12) SAYS 1 OBSTACLE TO RESOLVING CHINA QUESTION IS ADMIN'S HUMAN RTS POLICY. ABANDONMENT OF TAIWAN WOULD LEAVE US WIDE OPEN TO WORLD-WIDE ATTACKS OF BEING HYPOCRITICAL ON ISSUE. ALSO MENTIONS KENNEDY'S SPEECH; TERMS IT CALCULATED SHIFT US/PRC RELS OUT OF NEUTRAL; ADDS ADVANCE COPIES GIVEN TO ADMIN OFFICIALS WHO PRONOUNCED IT "HELPFUL."

13. KOREA

TULLY (SFCHRON 8/5) OPINES PRES PARK STARTLED US BY THREATENING DEVELOP NUKE WEAPONS, SO PRES/SECDEF ASSURED THAT BULK US TROOPS WILL REMAIN UNTIL FINAL YR PULLOUT. ADDS THINKS CONGRESS IN NO MOOD GO ALONG W/2 BIL-DOLS IN UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 193797

MIL AID/CREDIT TO ROKG, THO SECDEF BROWN SIGNED COMMUNIQUE
THAT SUGGESTS "NO DOUGH, NO PULLOUT."

MOREAU (LAT 8/14) DOES LENGTHY PIECE ON LACK GOOD US-SK
UNDERSTANDING,SO AFTER 20 YRS CLOSE RELS, BOTH "STILL
STUMBLE IN THE DARK." OPINES IF ROKG CHANGED BY COUP,
W/IN 6 MO" NEW GOVT WOULD BE DOING SAME AS PRESENT IN
ORDER SURVIVE. ADDS SK PEOPLE WILLING ACCEPT RESTRICTIONS
SINCE BETTER OFF ECONOMICALLY. REVIEWS KOREAGATE/HUMAN
RTS/TROOP PULLOUT ISSUES IN CONTEXT KOREAN CULTURE/OUT-
LOOK THAT LEADS TO SK RESENTMENT US FOPOL THAT KOREANS
SEE AS DESIGNED PLEASE VOTERS AT HOME RATHER THAN IMPROVE
RELS W/FON COUNTRIES.

14. ASEAN

WSJNOTESW/US REDUCING INFLUENCE IN PAC, VARIOUS NATIONS
IN REGION SCRAMBLING MAKE WHATEVER ALLIANCES THEY CAN.
SEES ADMIN PLEASED W/SEATO'S DISSOLUTION; ADDS ASEAN HAS
BEGUN MATTER IN PAST 2 YRS, NOW MOVING TOWARD REGIONAL
COMMART. POINTS TO JAPAN/AUSSIE/NZ WILLINGNESS COOPERATE
W/ASEAN. OPINES ASEAN NATIONS MUST TURN TO JAPAN AS US
INFLUENCE WANES IN SEA. WONDERS HOW ASEAN STATES WOULD
FARE IF PRC/SRV CHOSE NOW LEAVE THEM IN PEACE; OPINES US
APPEARS NOT HAVE WELL-THOUGHT-OUT POLICY FOR THIS PROBLEM.
VANCE

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